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Supply of books to elementary schools.

*1226 Q.—Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state, in reference to answers given to question No. 833 on 29th November 1928—

(a) whether the rule contemplated therein has been issued; and

(b) whether he will consider the desirability of amending the rule so as to leave sufficient freedom to the local bodies to take or reject the advice of the District Educational Officer?

A.—(a) The draft rule has been confirmed.

(b) No.

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao:—"May I know whether the hon. Minister considers that this is such an important matter that the local bodies are incompetent to decide it even after the advice of the District Educational Officer?"

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan:—"It is found in practice that the advice of the District Educational Officer is not accepted."

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao:—"May I know if that is a sufficient ground for taking away the liberty of the local bodies?"

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan:—"Yes, Sir."

Action taken on the Physical Education Committee's report.

*1227 Q.—Mr. A. B. Shetty: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have considered the report of the Physical Education Committee and passed any orders on it; and

(b) whether any grants will be provided in the coming budget for giving effect to the recommendations of the Committee?

A.—(a) The report is under consideration of Government.

(b) No. When, however, orders are passed on the report it is found that additional funds are needed in the current year for the purpose, the question of applying for supplementary grant will be considered.

Mr. A B. Shetty:—"May I know when the Government are likely to pass orders?"

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan:—"Before the budget discussion takes place."

Local Boards

Construction of a bridge over the main channel between the Undavalli and Duggirala in Guntur district.

*1228 Q.—Mr. P. Anjaneyulu: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government had at any time any proposals to construct a bridge over the main canal between Undavalli and Duggirala in the Guntur district;

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(b) whether the Government are aware of the fact that year after year fatal accidents occur to cattle crossing this wide canal at Thadepalli (Kistna canal junction);

(c) whether the authorities concerned have taken any and if so, what steps to prevent such accidents;

(d) the number of such accidents during the last three years, and the amount of loss in its approximate money value;

(e) whether the Government have received any representations from the ryots of the villages in the vicinity on the subject; and

(f) if so, whether Government have passed any orders thereon?

A.—(a) No.

(b) No.

(c) There is a bridge across the main canal near Undavalli and the Government understand that there are eight places between Undavalli and Duggirala where ballacuts or small boats are available for people and cattle to cross over.

(d) The Government have no information.

(e) No.

(f) Does not arise.

Mr. P. Anjaneyulu :—"With reference to answer to clause (b), may I know whether the Government are aware that the other side of Thadepalli is a thoroughfare?"

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—"Notice, Sir."

Mr. P. Anjaneyulu :—"As regards (d), will the Government call for the information?"

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—"Yes, Sir."

Repairs to the Kotagiri Ghaut Road.

* 1229 Q.—Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether he is aware that due to recent heavy land, etc., slips on the Nilgiris Railway line and the Mettupalayam-Coonoor Ghaut Road all the traffic are diverted through the Kotagiri Ghaut Road under certain restrictions imposed by the President of the Nilgiris District Board and the District Magistrate of the Nilgiris; and

(b) whether the Government propose to give special subsidy to the Nilgiris District Board to thoroughly repair the Kotagiri Ghaut Road and bring it to its former good condition?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Improvements to the road at a cost of Rs. 60,700 are being carried out by the Nilgiris District Board in order to bring it up to such condition as to carry trunk road traffic on occasions when the trunk road to Coonoor and Ootacamund is closed. The Government have provided a grant of Rs. 34,200 for this purpose in the current year.

Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai :—"May I ask the hon. Minister whether a special subsidy cannot be allotted for this work in view of the importance of the road?"

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—"That is why a grant of Rs. 34,200 has been made."